

Environment, Health and Safety Division
Environment Directorate

ENV/EHS/MS/cq/2017.07

Paris, 4 September 2017

To: Working Group of National Coordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme (WNT)
CC: Extended Advisory Group on Molecular Screening and Toxicogenomics (EAGMST)

SUBJECT: Request for Nominations to an Expert Group for developing a GD on reporting of transcriptomics data

Deadline: 29 September 2017

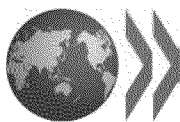
Dear members of the WNT and EAGMST,

At the last meeting of the EAGMST in June 2017, a project proposal, prepared by Canada and UK, on the development of Guidance Documents for reporting 'omics data received strong support and useful feedback from EAGMST. Since then, the project proposal was revised by the leads (see attachment) and another review by EAGMST is underway.

The purpose of this project is to focus initially on the area of transcriptomics to develop a Transcriptomics Reporting Framework (TRF). This TRF leverages the significant advances made by groups like the European Centre for Ecotoxicology and Toxicology of Chemicals (ECETOC) on the development of a reference baseline analysis and/or a harmonised reporting and analysis template for transcriptomic data (e.g., microarray, QPCR and RNA-seq). Following the progress made in the ECETOC Metabolomics Standards Initiative in Toxicology (MERIT) project, and building on the early work of the TRF template, this OECD project will expand to include metabolomics (MRF: estimated to start in summer 2018). These TRF and MRF activities can then be used for developing reporting frameworks for proteomics (PRF: no timelines have been established yet).

A subgroup of EAGMST volunteered to take part in the project (see Annex 1); however, expertise outside EAGMST is sought, initially to establish a dedicated expert group on transcriptomics. The members of the group will draft, share and review material, and take an active role in the development of the templates and future guidance documents. Therefore, the Working Group of the National Coordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme is invited to identify and nominate experts to an OECD Expert group on Toxicogenomics **by Friday, 29 September 2017**. Separate calls for nominations to form the expert groups on metabolomics and proteomics will take place as the project matures.

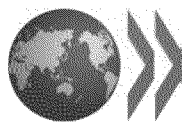
Discussions during the course of the project will take place via teleconferences and email exchanges mainly and material will be made available on the Molecular Screening and Toxicogenomics community site (<https://community.oecd.org/community/mst>).



Should you have any questions in relation to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me by email (magdalini.sachana@oecd.org) or by phone (+33 1 85-55-64-23).

Yours sincerely,

Magda Sachana
Administrator
Environment, Health and Safety Division



ANNEX 1 – PROPOSED EAGMST REPORTING FRAMEWORK EXPERT GROUP MEMBERS

Name	Role	Email	Affiliation
Tim Gant	EAGMST/Transcriptomics Co-lead	Tim.Gant@phe.gov.uk	Public Health England
Rusty Thomas	EAGMST/Transcriptomics Co-lead	thomas.russell@epa.gov	EPA
Carole Yauk	EAGMST/ Transcriptomics Co-lead	Carole.yauk@canada.ca	Health Canada
Edward Perkins	EAGMST	Edward.J.Perkins@erdc.dren.mil	Army Corps Engineers, USA
Jason O'Brien	EAGMST	Jason.obrien@canada.ca	Environment and Climate Change Canada
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Miriam Jacobs	EAGMST	Miriam.Jacobs@phe.gov.uk	Public Health England
Maurice Whelan	EAGMST	maurice.whelan@ec.europa.eu	JRC
Mark Viant	Metabolomics-lead	m.viant@bham.ac.uk	Univ. of Birmingham, UK
Alan Hargreaves	Proteomics-lead	alan.hargreaves@ntu.ac.uk	Nottingham Trent University
Lyle Burgoon	Proposed toxicogenomics team	burgoon.lyle@gmail.com	Army Corps Engineers, USA
Andrew Williams	Proposed toxicogenomics team	Andrew.Williams@canada.ca	Health Canada